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Letter dated 2 November 2004 from the President of the Economic and Social Council addressed to the President of the Security Council

I wish to bring to the attention of the members of the Security Council recent developments concerning the ad hoc advisory groups of the Economic and Social Council on African countries emerging from conflict.

The Council has continued to closely follow the situation in Guinea-Bissau and Burundi. In that respect, I wish to draw your attention to the latest reports concerning Guinea-Bissau (E/2004/10 and E/2004/92) and Burundi (E/2004/11 and E/2004/98) submitted to the Council. After considering the reports, the Council adopted resolutions concerning Guinea-Bissau (2004/1 of 3 May and 2004/61 of 23 July) and Burundi (2004/2 of 3 May and 2004/60 of 23 July).

The Council also carried out an assessment of the work of the ad hoc advisory groups (see E/2004/86). That document was submitted to the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session in July 2004. After consideration, the Council on 23 July adopted resolution 2004/59, in which it commended the ad hoc advisory groups for their innovative and constructive work in support of the countries concerned and made suggestions to further improve their work.

Finally, the recent joint mission to Guinea-Bissau of the Security Council and the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Guinea-Bissau in June 2004 was another step forward in the United Nations endeavour to address post-conflict situations in a comprehensive manner. The active participation of the Chairman of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Security Council on Conflict Prevention and Resolution in Africa in the work of the groups has greatly contributed to this collaborative approach.

I should be grateful if the present letter could be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Marjatta **Rasi**

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